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# THE MORNING NEWS

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Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

## Cancer in Children brought into Focus by RBTT Bank



ORANJESTAD -- Aruba's RBTT Bank has just launched their ambitious campaign to increase awareness regarding cancer among children. The "Move pa Bida" (Move for Life) which is an event that includes Zumba together with Aruba Zumba Fitness. The purpose of the event, as indicated above, is to create greater awareness of the situation of cancer in children. At the same time they will attempt to collect funds for the Koningin Wilhelmina Fonds and RBC/RBTT's Caribbean Children's Cancer Fund (CCCF).

The "Move pa Bida" event is scheduled to begin at 6 o'clock in the afternoon through to 8 o'clock in the evening. It will be held at the Frans Figaro Sport Complex. Registration is Afsl.5, which includes a T-shirt. Registration is possible as of September 16 at RBTT Bank in the Italiestraat 36 or on Saturday September 17 at the event site.

Koningin Wilhelmina Fonds will be present with their collection boxes where the public can deposit their donations.

The "Move pa Bida" is a regional awareness campaign in collaboration with voluntary concerns that are working hard in the fight against cancer in children on the Dutch Caribbean islands and in Suriname.

During the month of September RBC/RBTT will be collecting funds through various events to help provide the necessary funds needed to care for young cancer patients in the Dutch Caribbean and Suriname.

The funds collected will be divided between RBC/RBTT's Children's Cancer Fund (CCF) and different other local concerns who are involved in

valuable work against the fight of cancer in children.

RBC/RBTT's golden ribbon symbolizes the awareness related to child cancer. The golden color represent the valuable lives of children and identifies the different activities related to this excellent cause.

With respect to cancer in the region, RBC/RBTT considers it very important to increase awareness of cancer in children in the Caribbean region. Cancer in children is usually not detected in time. For this reason it is imperative that we increase awareness in general and so doing, focus on the need to offer help in this regard.

In the Dutch Caribbean and in Surinam, our governments only cover a portion of the medical costs through the social security banks in this region. As a consequence cancer patients do not qualify for assistance from the Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF).

For advance cancer treatment and care, which can amount to a considerable sum of money for each individual case, there is the need for financial support.

For this reason organizations that employ volunteers to assist in this area, are continuously organizing fund raising activities to raise funds to cover the needs of these patients.

RBTT Bank is inviting the entire Aruban community to participate in the "Move pa Bida" project to help contribute to the fund in our fight against cancer in children.

For more information, please contact Joanna Maya, RBTT Communications Officer at Tel. 523-3246 or at Joanna.maya@rbct.com.



## Aruba to host International Aviation Summit on Offshore Aircraft Registration



Aruba Minister of Tourism, Transport and Labor, Otmar Oduber

During a recent press conference, Minister of Tourism, Transport and Labor, Otmar Oduber, mentioned that Aruba will be hosting this year's International Aviation Summit on Offshore Aircraft Registration 2011 organized by Aeropodium, October 19-20.

Panagiotis Panagopoulos, CEO and Founder of Aeropodium expressed that Aruba is an ideal location for such a unique networking opportunity." Confirmed speakers include:

Jorge C. Colindres Mariakis, President & CEO, The Registry of Aruba

Lincoln Gomez, Senior Partner, Gomez & Bikker

Chris Miller, Managing Director, Guggenheim Partners

Dinesh Mishre, Attorney at Law, Spighoff Attorneys at Law & Tax Advisers

Hans Ruiter, Tax Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers Aruba

David Thompson Norton,

Shackelford, Melton & McKinley

Bryan P. Winters, Aero Attorney Group

The summit on Offshore Aircraft Registration will explore a variety of issues such as reasons for registering an aircraft offshore, the legal system in Aruba, Bermuda, the Cayman Islands and the Isle of Man, the process of registering an aircraft and requirements, protection of third party interests, aircraft surveys, inspection of maintenance facilities, air safety regulatory issues, air navigation services regulatory issues, commercial affairs regulatory issues, the impact of aircraft valuations, defaults and repossessions, negotiating lease contracts, the Cape Town Convention, the pre-purchase inspection process, aircraft insurance, legal aspects of aircraft registration, mitigating risk and customs issues.

by Rosalie Klein

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**TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC**

## Brussels seeks bigger hand in border control decisions

BRUSSELS (AFP) - The European Commission launched a bid Friday to oversee any return of border checks in Europe's passport-free travel area, despite opposition from nations refusing to hand Brussels such powers.

Beloved by travellers who can enjoy unfettered trips across Europe, the 25-nation Schengen zone faces an overhaul after changes were demanded by several EU states worried about sudden waves of immigration during the Arab Spring.

The European Commission unveiled draft legislation that would give it a big say in the

reintroduction of border controls and prevent unilateral decisions, a proposal that France, Germany and Spain have already rejected.

"With these proposals we are safeguarding the future of Schengen," said EU home affairs commissioner Cecilia Malmstroem.

The commission's proposal would still allow governments to reinstate patrols in urgent situations unilaterally, but only for a five-day period.

For longer periods, countries would need a green light from the EU's executive arm and all other bloc nations -- the condition that irked Paris, Berlin and Madrid.

At the moment, governments are allowed to deploy border guards unilaterally during terror threats or major

events such as football games or summits, but countries are seeking more leeway to restore controls.

The commission's proposal, which must be approved by EU governments and the European Parliament, would allow the reintroduction of border controls if an unexpected migration surge threatens public order.

And if a Schengen nation is deemed to have repeatedly failed to control its frontiers with non-EU countries, it could be temporarily excluded from the borderless area, as a last resort.

The EU Parliament's Socialist bloc welcomed the move to prevent unilateral border closures but voiced concern about the idea of isolating Schengen nations that struggle to prevent illegal migration.

## Dutch government to propose burqa ban

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The Dutch government agreed Friday to a ban on the burqa, the Interior Ministry said, under a deal with the far-right party of anti-immigration MP Geert Wilders.

"A general ban on wearing face-restrictive clothing in public is on the way," the Interior Ministry said in a statement after a cabinet meeting.

"The proposed legislation will ban the wearing of face-covering clothing in the Netherlands in public places including public buildings, educational institutions, hospitals and public transport," it said in The Hague.

Cabinet's decision, suggested by Interior Minister Piet Hein Donner comes in the wake of an announcement by Wilders last year that the burqa would be banned in the Netherlands.

Wilders's Party for Freedom gives parliamentary support to a right leaning, minority coalition, in exchange for a say in policy

making.

"Face-covering clothing is fundamentally against the character of public discourse where we have to meet each other on an equal footing," the government said Friday.

"It's against the principles of equality between the sexes because the article of clothing is worn only by women," it added.

Even if this may be seen as a restriction on freedom of religion it was "necessary and justified to protect the character and good habits of public life in the Netherlands."

"The sanction for the non-compliance to this ban will be a fine," the statement said, without disclosing the amount.

The ban will not be enforced on planes or for passengers in transit through the Netherlands, it added.

The cabinet's decision will be sent to the highest administrative court, the State Council, for legal advice before being put before parliament for approval.

## Niger will not send Saadi Kadhafi back to Libya: official

NIAMEY (AFP) - The Nigérien government said Friday it will not send fallen Libyan dictator Moamer Kadhafi's son Saadi back home from Niger, where he fled after the collapse of the regime in Tripoli.

Asked by journalists if Niger would turn Kadhafi's son over to Libya's new authorities, government spokesman Marou Amadou said, "No."

"With regard to (our) international obligations, we cannot send someone back there where he has no chance of receiving a fair trial and where he could face the death penalty," he said.

On a visit to Libya on Thursday with British Prime Minister David Cameron, French President Nicolas Sarkozy said he was confident

that Niger would cooperate in this regard.

"We have no reason to doubt the Nigérien leaders' commitment to international justice," Sarkozy said.

Saadi Kadhafi is on a list of people close to the Kadhafi regime targeted by UN Security Council travel sanctions.

The 38-year-old, the third of Kadhafi's seven sons, renounced a football career in Italy in 2004 to join the army, where he led an elite unit.

He arrived in Niger, one of the west African countries that benefited the most from Kadhafi's largesse, on Sunday in a convoy alongside other members of the toppled regime.

Niger has confirmed it has 32 Kadhafi loyalists on its soil, including three generals, saying it allowed them entry for "humanitarian reasons".

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## Tourism Authority submits 2012 Budget to Parliament President



ORANJESTAD -- On Wednesday, Parliament President, Paul Croes received a delegation consisting of Minister of Tourism Otmar Oduber, President of the ATA Commissioners Jossy Lace and the CEO of ATA Ronella Tjin Asjoe-Croes on the occasion of the submission of the 2012 budget of the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA).

The Minister of Tourism remarked that it was for him a pleasure to submit to Parliament, on behalf of the new independent ATA, this 2012 budget on schedule as prescribed by law. After receiving the approval of the Supervisory Board of ATA, the budget was submitted to the Minister of Tourism. Now it is expected that Parliament will review the budget and provide their commentary so that by September 27, Tourism Day, it can be formally and officially accorded.

Oduber remarked that he was especially pleased to note that the amount of 3 million Aruban florins' contribution from the government to help with the transition period during the first year is not included in the 2012 budget. This simply indicates that ATA can now stand 100% on its own without any such assistance from the government. What's more, the amount budgeted for marketing has been increased by 5 million for 2012. This is an increase from 40 million in 2011 to 45 million in 2012. This increase is as a result of the positive developments in our tourism and as a result of the planning effected together with our partners in the industry.

Another very important aspect is the creation of a reserve fund for ATA, which will begin in 2012. This, according to Oduber is an indication of their

seriousness and resolve to create a reserve budget within 5 years. Said reserve budget will be equal to the budget of the first quarter of the fiscal year.

The Minister was pleased to report that ATA had exceeded the proposed 3% growth rate and showed instead a whopping increase of 6.7% up to the end of August.

Parliament President Paul Croes thanked the Minister for the ATA 2012 Budget he received. He indicated that it is important for Parliament to receive these budgets on time and expressed praise for the se-



Paul Croes

rious manner in which ATA was attending to the business of our tourism. This, according to Paul Croes, was the very first 2012 budget to be submitted to Parliament. He remarked that this should be an example for others.

## FCCA Launches end-of-the-year Campaign

ORANJESTAD -- In a recent press conference in the presence of officials of the "Bo-Barrio" project, Mr. Franklin Leest of FCCA announced their end-of-the-year campaign. FCCA, Aruba's Foundation for Community Housing, has been an active participant in the "Pinta Bo Barrio" project of the government. To date 245 FCCA homes have been painted by young people in the barrios to the tune of Afls.800 per house. Likewise FCCA is participating in the renovation of the Yuwana Morto "BoBarrio" project.

FCCA is intent on helping people in the barrios, in keeping with the Aruban culture, to paint and repair their homes for the end of the year. Just like last year, FCCA again this year launches their campaign for their clients. The campaign is designed to offer clients the opportunity to receive a loan that could be used to repair their homes for the end of the year. The loan is for an amount between Afls.1000 to Afls.10,000, which will be credited to their existing mortgage.

FCCA clients interested in obtaining this loan should go to the Offices of FCCA and make application. The application process for obtaining this loan is rather simple with no lengthy waiting period.



Franklin Leest

Those interested in obtaining a loan larger than 10 thousand Aruban florins who have excellent credit rating may qualify. Said loan will definitely contribute to increasing the value of their home. The application process for the larger loan will be somewhat longer.

FCCA will also afford those who obtain a loan the opportunity to use the "cash bon" system to make their purchases at discount prices. The only requirement for qualifying for the FCCA loan is that the client must have an impeccable payment record.

With this campaign FCCA is collaborating in a tangible manner with the BoBarrio project.

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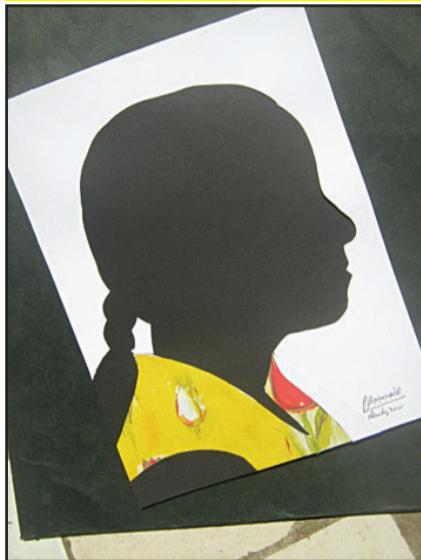
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## Island artist Waldy Simson preparing for new exposition



impression of the subject that inspired Simson so greatly.

The portrait was produced by cuttings in black, white and color paper; it reveals a silhouette that leaves no doubt it is a portrait of Sandra, while still quite contemporary in style. Her colleagues were so impressed the portrait has become an important part of the current exhibition.

The exposition includes a diversity of styles and mediums at which Simson has applied his creativity, plus framed poems and drawings. It runs until October 28th and is part of fundraising activities by Simson to allow him to show some of his work abroad.

For more information, contact Waldy Simson via 5857472, 5626581, waldysimson@hotmail.com and or via facebook.

During the final preparations for a new exhibition in Garage Cordia Aruba, island artist Waldy Simson conceived a unique portrait of Sandra, and employee of Garage Cordia

The concept was to depart from classic portraiture, deploying a technique that was expressive and could fit every budget as well as quickly made, and relay the artistic

## Honored visitor at Playa Linda Beach Resort, Aruba Beach Club



Recently a group of loyal visitors from Aruba were honored as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill of Aruba. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10 consecutive years or more and 20 consecutive years or more.

At the Playa Linda Beach



Resort the following guests were honored: Mr. Peter and Mrs. Linda Longobucco, Mr. Lewis Varick and Mrs. Darlene Iamele, and Mr. Paul and Mrs. Dolores Schmaeling.

The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Yvette Tromp of Playa Linda Beach Resort.

Also honored at the Aruba Beach Club as Ambassadors of Goodwill were Mr. Eduardo and Mrs. Judith Quintero from

Caracas, Venezuela. This nice couple has been coming to Aruba for 30 consecutive years and are loyal members of the Aruba Beach Club. The Quintero couple loves Aruba very much, and has also brought a lot of family and friends to Aruba through the years.

Mr. Ernest Giel representing The Aruba Tourism Authority presented the couple with their certificate, in presence of Mrs. Izaira Pinela, Activities Coordinator of Aruba Beach Club

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## SETAR N.V. continues with its Digital Cable upgrading process

Next neighborhoods are Cas Paloma, Bucuti, Mahuma, Meiveld, Dakota, Tarabana, San Barbola, Wayaca, Primavera, Morgenster and Santa Cruz partially

SEROE BLANCO – SETAR N.V. announces to its subscribers that the Digital Cable Service is in the process of changing its electronic guide for a new service called "Passport Guide."

On Monday, September 19, the process continues at 12.01 (Sunday midnight) in the following neighborhoods: Cas Paloma, Bucuti, Mahuma, Meiveld, Dakota, Tarabana, San Barbola, Wayaca, Primavera, Pavilla, Morgenster and Santa Cruz partially.

This means that all Digital Cable clients must leave their boxes **ON** on September 18 when going to bed to ensure the changes.



At the end of the process the new guide will appear automatically on TV. Clients will also note changes in some channel numbers.

SETAR will continue announcing the dates and hours of the upgrading transitions for each neighborhood.

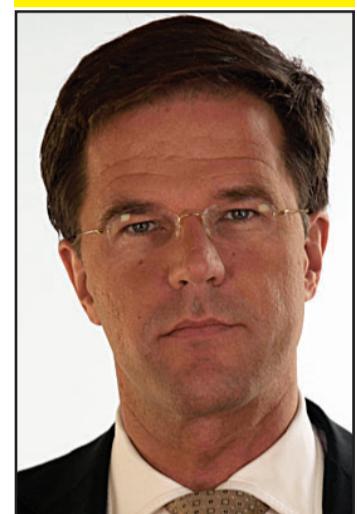
Clients will also receive a letter thru the mail and an information flyer with details regarding the new electronic guide.

The transition began on September 12, and will continue until October 5. The transition will occur in different phases in each section of the various neighborhoods.

With Passport Guide users can access the Digital Cable electronic menu, offering more variation, control and easy access to favorite programming.

For more information readers can call SETAR at tel. 525-1700 or visit the website [www.setar.aw](http://www.setar.aw)

**Dutch asylum policy to become more restrictive'**



Prime Minister Mark Rutte

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The Netherlands' asylum policy will become "more selective and more restrictive", the leader of the center-right government that rules with the backing of a far-right party said yesterday.

The country which long cultivated an image of multicultural tolerance, now wants to "address the criminality of foreigners, harmonise and simplify the asylum criteria and fight against illegality," an interior ministry statement said.

"The asylum policy will become more selective and more restrictive," Prime Minister Mark Rutte added at a press conference after a cabinet meeting in The Hague.

Among other changes, family reunification will in future be limited to immediate family -- a spouse or common-law partner and minor children.

Illegal immigration will become a criminal offence, punishable by up to four years in prison or a fine of 3,800 euros (\$5,200).

Foreigners who have lived in the Netherlands for less than three years and commit a crime, will be expelled "speedily."

The government also announced plans to ban the burqa, and said it would oppose bids by Romania and Bulgaria to enter Europe's visa-free Schengen zone.

Rutte's government enjoys parliamentary backing from anti-immigration MP Geert Wilders' Party for Freedom, in exchange for which the party was promised a larger say in policy making.



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## SCI-TECH

# 'Connected' cars new buzzword at IAA fair



A car that parks itself is one of a number of high-tech auto solutions on show at this year's Frankfurt motor Show.

Following smartphones and tablet computers, motorists look set to be the next big market for connected devices as automakers wow crowds with the latest Internet-enabled models at the IAA motor show.

The times are long past when car shows reeked of motor oil and fans were obsessed with engine power and sleek designs.

With the aid of cloud computing, automobile makers believe the car of the future will no longer be just a vehicle, but an extension of the home or workplace, where drivers will have access to emails and keep up-to-date on their social networks even on the road.

German top-of-the-range manufacturer BMW already offers an onboard computer with Internet access whereby

drivers can locate a restaurant of their preference, the nearest ATM or free parking space in a matter of clicks.

And rival Daimler is not to be outdone, either: its new in-built computer allows drivers to surf the web as long as the vehicle is parked.

In its new concept car on show unveiled at the IAA this week, the Evos, Ford claims it can fine-tune the car to personal preferences, even down to the cabin temperature, and access to the driver's home entertainment systems for listening to favourite news and music programmes.

"A successful car must offer lifestyle, comfort and also fit in with people's ecological awareness," said Stephan Reith of the consultancy firm, Booz & Company.

Studies suggest that the

number of Internet-enabled vehicles worldwide will soar in the coming years.

According to BITKOM, the German industry association for IT, telecoms and new media, one out of every two drivers in Germany would already like Internet access in the car.

"And if the market says: 'That's what we want', that's what it gets," predicted LBBW analyst Frank Biller.

"Connectivity is a mega-trend," the analyst said.

Navigation systems have long become more than just fancy accessories.

And automotive part makers such as Bosch in Germany and Valeo in France are busily investing in state-of-the-art onboard computer technologies, with the French group, for example, unveiling a new system which parks a vehicle without the driver in the car.

Nevertheless, the new services are not without their dangers, such as driver distraction.

The challenge is "to meet customer demands without impinging on traffic safety," said BITKOM board member Martina Koederitz.

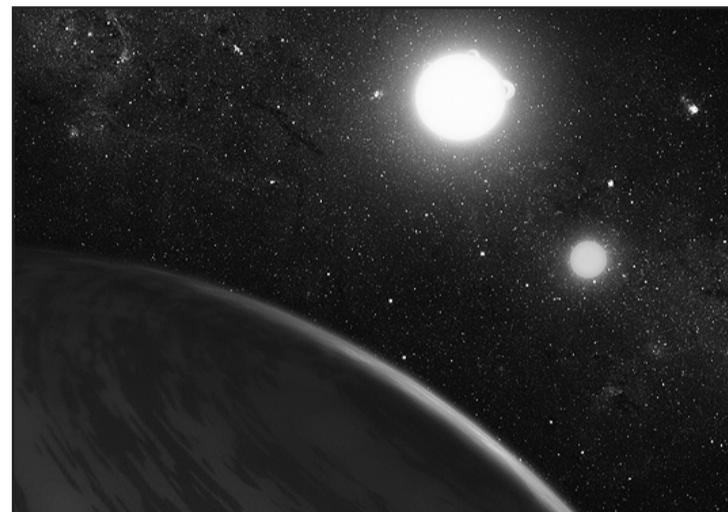
And there are other security concerns, too.

US anti-virus software group McAfee warned of possible hacker attacks on vehicle computer systems.

"It's one thing to hack into someone's email account or laptop. But if cars are hacked, that could seriously compromise critical safety systems," said McAfee general manager Stuart McClure.

And data protection specialists warned drivers must be careful about the sheer volume of personal data stored, particularly in electric cars, which could be used to track somebody's whereabouts or movements.

## US astronomers find planet with two Suns



This NASA/JPL-CALTECH handout image shows an artist's concept illustrating Kepler-16b, the first planet known to definitely orbit two stars

into reality."

While astronomers have previously glimpsed planets they believed were orbiting two stars, they had never before seen one actually passing in front of its two Suns so this discovery offers the first proof.

"Kepler-16b is the first confirmed, unambiguous example of a circumbinary planet -- a planet orbiting not one, but two stars," said co-author Josh Carter of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics.

"Once again, we're finding that our solar system is only one example of the variety of planetary systems nature can create."

If there were people on Kepler-16b, they could relax to the view of a double sunset, but such a scenario is highly unlikely due to the planet's extreme frigid surface temperature of -100 to -150 Fahrenheit (-73 to -101 Celsius).

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## Health & Living

### Introducing Jujube to Aruba



Jujube is one of the common names of the fruit whose scientific name is *Ziziphus mauritiana*.

It is claimed to have originated in China, as is everything else now-a-days. Very recently it has been planted

on Aruba and is doing very well, especially at Ari Lichtenstein's Land Farm. Its great appeals are the following:

- Bears fruit abundantly only after two years, and under one meter
- Needs little or no watering
- Disease and insect-free
- Grows rapidly (some pruning is necessary to keep plant within bounds).
- Tastes like an apple, looks like a little apple, crunchy as an apple, eaten as an apple.
- **Loaded with goodies: Vitamin A, Vitamin C, protein, calcium, iron phosphorus, fiber.**

The fruit is plum-shaped, round, about 4 cm in diameter. When fully mature and ready for eating its skin is light green. When fully ripe the skin is mahogany brown and the flesh softer. It has one hard shelled seed which occupies as much as 30% of the fruit.

The few people on Aruba who has tasted it love it.

The Jujube's close relative on Aruba is the Appeldam, sometimes called Christ Thorn, Scientific name *Ziziphus spinosus christi*. However, the fruit of the Appeldam is smaller and its flesh tasteless, and unlike the Jujube, the tree is very thorny. Hence on Aruba it grows wild and is ignored.

The Jujube plants are available at Fantastic Garden. Go, plant a Jujube tree.

**God will be pleased. So, too, would the chuchubees, trupials and neighborhood boys.**

By: Isaac Chin

### Health Tip: Use Your Home Gym Safely

--A home gym is a convenient way to get in your daily workout, but you still have to take precautions to stay safe.

The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons mentions these safety guidelines:

- Start out slowly, gradually increasing the duration and intensity of your workouts.
- Pay attention to your form and technique, making sure you're using the machines correctly.
- Always warm up and cool down.
- If you have pain, adjust the equipment to make your workout less strenuous. Also, take a day off and rest.

### More overweight Indians opting for surgery: doctors

MUMBAI (AFP) - The leader of India's main opposition party went under the knife this week to help him lose weight, throwing the spotlight on increasing use of surgery to tackle the country's growing obesity problem.

The president of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Nitin Gadkari, is one of a rising number of Indians now opting for weight loss (bariatric) surgery to slim down.

Muffazal Lakdawala, Gadkari's doctor at the Centre for Obesity and Diabetes Surgery (CODS) at the private Saifee Hospital in Mumbai, said the political heavyweight was recovering well after his gastric bypass.

The surgeon said that Gadkari, who tipped the scales at 130 kilograms (287 pounds), was morbidly obese -- medically, someone with a body mass index of more than 40 -- but that his weight should fall in coming months.

India is traditionally more associated with malnutrition and chronic food shortages than overeating and weight-related illness, but economic growth has had an impact on waistlines, particularly in urban areas.

The boom has brought a more sedentary lifestyle, while being able to eat oil and sugar-rich foods, particularly Western fast food, is seen as a visible sign of status and increased disposable income.

Between 1998 and 2005, the number of overweight adults in India increased by 20 percent, according to an Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) study published in The Lancet medical journal last year.

Almost one in five men and more than one in six women are now overweight.

In some urban areas, rates were as high as 40 percent, the study suggested.

Meanwhile, a separate study of 4,000 Indian children in 15 cities published last August indicated that almost a quarter (23 percent) of five to 14-year-olds in urban schools were overweight, while nearly 11 percent were obese.

Ramen Goel, a bariatric and metabolic surgeon at the state-run Bombay Hospital, blamed growing rates of obesity on lifestyle changes combined with a genetic predisposition among South Asian people to store more fat.

As a result, and due to greater awareness of the availability of the procedure, Goel's workload has increased drastically since he performed the first weight loss operations in India more than a decade ago.

At the turn of the millennium he carried out only about four procedures a year but that rate has now shot up to about 20 a month.

Likewise, Lakdawala said doctors at CODS carried out only one or two gastric bypasses a month when they opened in 2005 but now conduct about 30 a month. A number of their patients are politicians.

Gastric bypass surgery, such as Gadkari underwent, reduces the size of the stomach and length of the intestine that comes into contact with food, so the person eats less and absorbs fewer calories.

Other options include placing a gastric band around the stomach, which cuts the amount of food that can be consumed.

Lakdawala said that overweight and obese people were increasingly seeking surgery because a majority of them failed to shift excess body fat through diet and exercise.

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## Cas Animal Cont'd Aruba's strays... You can help!



It was an e-mail to THE MORNING NEWS from a vacationer disturbed by the number of stray dogs they spotted on Aruba which prompted the paper to begin this series of articles nearly a year ago. We are very pleased to inform readers that placing constant attention on the efforts of Kiki Arndt and her foundation, Cas Animal, is making a difference, and many have come forward to help her with donations or by adopting one of the many dogs and cats she rescues from the streets or being euthanized.

Kiki is well aware that a good portion of the more than 70 dogs he has in her home will never be taken in by any-

one; they are missing legs or eyes from being run over, are old and have few teeth and are just not what people are looking for in a new pet, but she also has a number of sweet, young dogs and puppies in need of a good home.

A recent acquisition was this lovely, friendly kitten, which would make a wonderful companion to a caring family. She also has a handsome, six-month old dog, ready to be a good watch dog and early warning system of strangers on your property, but has the kind of nature that will be fiercely loyal and loving to those who treat him right.

Kiki also encourages island visitors to adopt one of her dogs or cats; or perhaps one they have befriended on the beach or streets. She will walk you through the simple process of transporting your new companion back home, it is much easier than you may think.

Kiki wishes to thank all those who have helped her in mission; the smallest donation assists her in calling of saving Aruba's stray, abandoned and abused dogs and cats. She is aware that keep-

ing them in her home can be a trial for the neighbors, and she is working hard to raise the funds to build a proper animal shelter where their barking won't disturb anyone. She has already been awarded land by the government for this purpose, and has sold nearly all her personal property to begin the work.

You can help Kiki by calling her at: 565-2130 or 742-8732 to make a donation or report a stray or injured dog, as she maintains an Animal Ambulance to rescue them. Her expenses for feeding all the animals she has taken in are astronomical, as well as her veterinary bills, and donations can be made by paying on her account at the Contreras Clinics in Shaba or Savaneta, as well as directly to the bank account of Cas Animal Foundation, CMB Bank account # 25762110.

The issue of stray and abandoned animals is minor in Aruba compared to most Caribbean islands and Latin America; the problem in Puerto Rico has even been documented in the film "100,000." You can help in a tangible way with a donation or by adopting, if not here, than save a dog in your hometown.

Our continuing series and Kiki's progress can be followed on the Cas Animal Facebook page.

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your house  
and yard clean

## KIA Picanto named 'Best Supermini' by 'What Car? Green Awards 2011'



**Kia Picanto**



In the 'What Car? Green Awards 2011, the all new Kia Picanto, which was launched in June, has been named Best Supermini.

The Kia Picanto is powered by a three cylinder petrol engine, and boasts NOx emissions 25 times less than its nearest diesel-engined rival in the category. The Kia Picanto and Venga were also named "Born for Traffic by 'Al Volante,' leader automotive magazine in Italy.

Its general balance, quality and defects, and economic price makes the Kia picanto worthy of this nomination. Second, 3rd and 4th place went to Fiat 500 Twin Air, Chevrolet Spark and Suzuki Alto/Celerio respectively.

According to What Car? with sub 100g/km emissions, the Kia Picanto benefits from no road tax and no London Congestion Charge. The magazine commented that the Kia Picanto is "remarkably grown up" and of the fuel economy said "Average fuel economy of 67.3 mpg is also hugely impressive."

"The cabin is surprisingly classy for such a cheap car and the driving position isn't

the sit-up-and-beg sort that blights budget motors.

"We think the '1 Air' trim makes the most sense. It gets the all-important air-conditioning, electric front windows and Kia's famous seven-year warranty, but crucially doesn't push the price into the territory of full-size superminis," What Car? concluded.

President of Kia Motors UK, Mr Soo Huh, said: "We are honoured that What Car? has recognised the enormous effort that has gone into making Picanto one of the cleanest superminis on the market. We are delighted that its package of economy, environmental-friendliness and sophistication in a value package is already appealing to huge numbers of British motorists."

Topcar N.V. is a local company with a long history of excellent service. Topcar N.V. is the exclusive auto dealer for Kia Motors on Aruba. For more information, please call at tel. 582-1547 / 582-3747 or visit their showroom at Caya Ernesto Petronia # 21.

## Outstanding Service Award for De Palm Tours



Oranjestad—As travel companies gear up for their busy Winter season months, they also reflect on accomplishments achieved in previous seasons, taking the time to acknowledge superior service levels at premier destinations.

De Palm Tours was on the receiving end of such season-end award as Thomas Cook, a giant multi-national travel organization presented compliments for a job-well-done, in a special ceremony which took place just recently.

The "Outstanding Service Award" bestowed by the BIG 4, Thomas Cook Canada, Sunquest and Holiday House in Toronto, and Ontario Canada, was announced on August

22nd, 2011. It was given to suppliers including Ground Handlers and/or Hoteliers who have achieved excellence, as reflected in customer feedback obtained from surveys filled out on Thomas Cook flights coming home from various destinations, as well as from customer letters and reports received by Thomas Cook throughout the year.

Aruba's De Palm Tours, shared the distinction with other quality ground handling operators such as Costa Rica's Swiss Travel and Nassau's Majestic Tours who also received the top Outstanding Service Awards in the region.

"We're proud of our

award," a De Palm Tours representative commented. "We are the ones in charge of first impressions and last impressions as we welcome passengers to Aruba, at the airport and the cruise ship terminal, and we bid them farewell at the same two facilities at the end of their vacations. We realize the importance of those two Moments of Truth, of those two key interactions, and always strive to provide our passengers with the best, and smoothest experience, coming in and leaving Aruba. We're very pleased that our considerable efforts were noticed and acknowledged by our international partners."

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## "Aruba Ariba" presented to plenipotentiary minister of Aruba in the Netherlands

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During a stay in the Netherlands, writer and photographer of "Aruba Ariba" handed his book to the plenipotentiary minister of Aruba. Theo Knevel surprised Edwin Abath with a whole box full of books. Aruba house now uses the book as a present to visiting ambassadors to elegantly introduce them to Dushi Aruba. The book can be called a best-seller after the incredible sales in the first few months. The book is now available in the US and the Netherlands.

## CO MICS

## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBES



## CROSSWORD



## CROSSWORD

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[www.themorningnewsaruba.com](http://www.themorningnewsaruba.com)

## ACROSS

- Dryer singleton
- Fleet officer: abbr.
- Simple trio
- Unadulterated
- Bird's crop
- Modern: prefix
- Torte topper
- Last name in spydom
- Roofer's goo
- Type of park or song
- Very tall Sesame Street dweller
- Unhealthy
- Grow mellow
- Waldorf's

## fellow curmudgeon

- Hanker
- It's heavier than helium
- Snooze
- Dove's murmur
- Pressing concern in the Highlands
- Grover or Elmo, e.g.
- Afghan or akita
- Sweet —
- "Muppet Show" stage manager
- Gives off
- Keogh alternative: abbr.

## 55. Biology major's course: abbr.

- Oz apple thrower
- Stool pigeon
- Sausage unit
- Improve, as one's skills
- Ambulance letters
- DDE's domain
- Brings down the curtain

## makeover Von Trapp's second wife

7. Oz apple thrower
- One opposed
- Paddington or Pooh
- Umbilical —
- Kooky
- Extension
- Bonnet dweller?
- Cariou or Deighton
- Devitalize
- "Shop — you drop"
- Part of "to be"
- He loves ewe
- Behave
- Baseball's Preacher
- Neither's tagalong
- Explosive sound
- Excitement
- Bill word
- Lucy Ricardo, Macgillicuddy

## DOWN

- Pointed rod
- Shout of pain
- Native Manitoban
- "Muppet Show" emcee
- Frau's "drat!"
- In need of a

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## Finance

# Clinton declares 'Participation Age' for women



SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Friday urged greater effort to break barriers for working women, saying the world has entered a "Participation Age" where inclusion means economic growth.

Clinton, who has made women's rights a top priority throughout her career, made an impassioned call as she led a special meeting of the 21-member APEC Asia-Pacific bloc dedicated to the role of women in the economy.

Pointing to the anaemic growth and debt woes afflicting many major economies, Clinton described women as a great untapped resource. Women, she said, tend to save better and can provide new markets when they are empowered.

"I believe that here, at the beginning of the 21st century, we are entering the Participation Age, where every individual, regardless of gender or other characteristics, is poised to be a contributing and valued member of the global

marketplace.

"When it comes to the enormous challenge of our time --- to systematically and relentlessly pursue more economic opportunity in our lands -- we don't have a person to waste. And we certainly don't have a gender to waste," she said.

Clinton, citing studies, said that narrowing the gender gap could lead to a 14 percent rise in per capita incomes by 2020 in APEC economies, including China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Russia, South Korea and Vietnam.

"When we liberate the economic potential of women, we elevate the economic performance of communities, nations and the world," Clinton said.

Clinton noted that governments routinely took measures of indicators such as macroeconomic growth, unemployment and debt.

Clinton, along with Australian Foreign Minister Kevin Rudd and Indonesian Foreign Minister Marty Natalegawa, later led a special APEC meeting that was to agree on a declaration on increasing the role of women in the workplace.

APEC, or the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, accounts for more than half of global GDP and includes the world's three largest economies -- the United States, China and Japan.

Clinton credited a number of businesses in the APEC region for taking action to include women.

## BP to pay \$20.5 mn to settle US natural gas case

NEW YORK (AFP) - British energy giant BP has agreed to pay \$20.5 million to settle claims that it cheated the US government and Native Amer-

icans out of natural gas royalties, US officials said Friday.

Six US subsidiaries of BP -- including Amoco, which merged with the British oil major in 1998 -- were parties to the settlement, the US Department of Justice (DoJ) said in a statement.

The settlement resolves a long-running lawsuit which alleged that the BP subsidiaries underpaid for natural gas that they extracted on land owned by the US government and Indian reservations.

"Natural gas royalties provide an important source of income for the United States, Native Americans, and various states," Assistant Attorney General Tony West said in the statement.

"Through cases like this,

*family operated since 1986*

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## China needs financial reform in 5 years: IMF

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The International Monetary Fund estimates that China has five years to reform its financial system to keep it effective, a top IMF official said Friday.

"You never had an economy this big, this systemic, with this kind of financial system," Nigel Chalk, the IMF mission chief for China,

said at a conference at a Washington think tank.

Without reform, he said, China risks that significantly low interest rates will promote investment bubbles, particularly in the housing market.

Chalk described the Chinese financial system as "very bank-based," fed by "very high savings", and tightly controlled by the government.

"It's highly regulated in the sense that interest rates are determined by the government directly... and the exchange rate is highly managed," he told a Carnegie Endowment for International Peace forum.

Chalk said that the state's control of the system, useful

so far to boost Chinese economic growth and to contain inflation and speculation, is at risk of losing its effectiveness with the emergence of unregulated financial institutions.

"We see that there's a risk continuing on the current path. It's not an immediate risk, but it's a present risk on a, say, three- to five-year horizon that the main macroeconomic controls that they have at their disposal actually become much more diluted in their effectiveness."

"Because the cost of capital is too low and is becoming increasingly low in real terms, that just facilitates more and more investment. And at some point you get at the end of the road."

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### YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer



## Buster's Garage in South Beach Center for snacking, sports events and fun!



the sports fanatic, the spacious but homey interior is the perfect place to keep up with your favorite team and have a great meal.

Fun for all the family, Buster's has typical sport bar fare such as chicken wings, quesadillas, calamari rings for munching while watching the main event on 24 giant plasma screens. Every seat is good seat for catching all the action. Open from noon for lunch or dinner, it has plenty of distractions for the younger crowd, including foosball, and a video arcade, so Mom and Dad can relax and enjoy their meal.

The moderately priced menu includes all your favorite finger foods and a great selection of local and imported beers. Customer reviews gave Buster's Garage 4.5 stars out of 5 on yellowpages-aruba.com; one declared "my wife and I happened to stumble upon it -but what a find!" Another stated "Owner Rusty is so down to earth. The food was very good and the prices were outstanding for the High-Rise area. Aruba needed a place like this."

Buster's regularly organizes special events with live music. At 10 p.m. it turns into a cozy adult hangout; 18 years and over only allowed, with a DJ on duty nightly and boasting the only beerpong table on Aruba. Aside from a great place to root for the home team or your favorites during play-offs and championships, they regularly carry all UFC fights & WWE events.

Buster's is a great place where island visitors and residents mix and mingle; Monday to Thursday they close at 2:00 am., weekends at 4:00 a.m.



Buster's Garage, a New York City landmark, made its way to Aruba about a year ago, and

found a new home at the South Beach Center across from the Radisson Resort. Dedicated to

## Parents Guide to Skin Protection



It's important to protect your children's skin from the damaging effects of the sun. No matter what they're doing or what time of year it is, if they are outdoors, they need to be protected.

Aruba is one of the places in the world where the sun is the strongest. Located only 12.5 degrees north of the equator, the sun shines with maximum strength and penetrates the atmosphere with a maximum amount of UV rays. What most people don't know on water and sand, which means that even in the shade you need protection.

Protecting the skin from the sun during childhood and adolescence is important in reducing cancer risks later in life. By building safe sun habits into your family's daily routine, you will make your children understand and get used to being protected against the sun and they will become more aware of the harmful effects it can have to their skin. Parents should take the lead by giving the good example; children will respond better when they see their parents protecting their skin as well.

### Important recommendations:

- Wear protective clothing when out in the sun. Choose shirts and slacks made of tightly woven fabrics that you can't see through when held up to light.

- Cover up with Hats. Choose hats that shade your child's face, neck and ears.

- Apply Sunscreen every day on skin that is not protected by clothing or a hat. Choose a sunscreen with a high Sun Protection Factor (SPF) such as Aruba Aloe's Waterproof SPF 30 sunscreen for maximum protection. For babies and children under 2 years old, make sure to use a special sunscreen that gives extra protection for the sensitive skin such as "Waterproof Babies SPF 30" from Aruba Aloe. Remember to reapply after swimming, sweating or toweling dry if you use a sun-

screen that is not waterproof.

- Use sunscreen even on hazy or overcast days.
- Keep an extra bottle of sunscreen in the car.
- Pack a bottle of sunscreen in your child's bag.

- Use Sunglasses that block UV rays and protect the eyes and the surrounding tender skin.



- Play in the Shade. The sun's rays are generally strongest from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If your children are outdoors, make sure their skin is protected.

- Teach your children the shadow rule. When outside, if your shadow is shorter than you are, it means that the sun is high in the sky and the UV rays are most intense.

- Protect children younger than 6 months of age with clothing and keep them in the shade.

For more advice on how to best protect your and your children's skin against the sun, please call Aruba Aloe: 588-3222 or visit the website [www.ArubaAloe.com](http://www.ArubaAloe.com)

Aruba Aloe products are available at most hotels, supermarkets, pharmacies and the Aruba Aloe Stores.

## S.Korean maestro plans joint concerts with N. Korea

SEOUL (AFP) - A renowned South Korean conductor said Friday he had agreed with North Korean musicians to hold regular joint performances by the two countries' orchestras to ease cross-border tensions.

Chung, who leads the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra and doubles as a UNICEF "goodwill ambassador", made a four-day trip with two senior orchestra officials to meet his counterparts in the North.

He said musicians from both nations signed an agree-

ment to promote the joint performances and a project to nurture talented North Korean musicians. The agreements still need approval from both governments.

Chung's trip followed months of high tension on the peninsula and was authorised by the South's unification ministry as part of a series of apparently conciliatory gestures.

The ministry will discuss the proposed concerts with Chung. It said it was premature to say whether it would

approve them.

Chung said the joint orchestra, if approved, would be made up of an equal number of musicians from each country. Performances would be held alternately in Seoul and Pyongyang, with the first scheduled in December.

The two sides "connected through our passion and desire to spread music", said Chung, who watched and conducted performances by the North's state symphony orchestra and its Unhasu Orchestra.

## Iran drama 'A Separation' to run for Oscars

PARIS (AFP) - Iranian drama "A Separation", which won top prize at the Berlin Film Festival, has been chosen to represent Iran at the US Oscars despite opposition from Tehran, its French distributor said Friday.

Directed by Asghar Farhadi, the movie tells the story of a crumbling marriage and looks at the conflict between strict religious observance and the shifting values of Iran's educated urban elite.

"Following a tug-of-war of several weeks between the

(Iranian) authorities and the rest of the profession, Asghar Farhadi's film 'A Separation' was finally chosen to represent Iran at the 84th Oscars ceremony," Memento Films said in a statement.

It will be submitted in the Best Foreign Film category ahead of the Oscars ceremony on February 26, said the statement, adding that the news was announced Friday in Tehran by an Iranian film body, the Farabi Foundation.

The film, whose full title is "Nader and Simin: A Separation", is also to be released by

Sony Pictures Classics in US movie houses on December 30, in order to make it eligible to run in the Best Director and Best Screenplay categories, the statement said.

"A Separation" triumphed at the Berlin festival in February, picking up the Golden Bear award as well as top acting prizes for its entire cast.

Released in France in June, the film became a box office hit, attracting more than 900,000 viewers, and is still playing in more than 100 movie houses nationwide.



### Anuncio

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Primavera, Pavilla, Morgenster y Santa Cruz un parti

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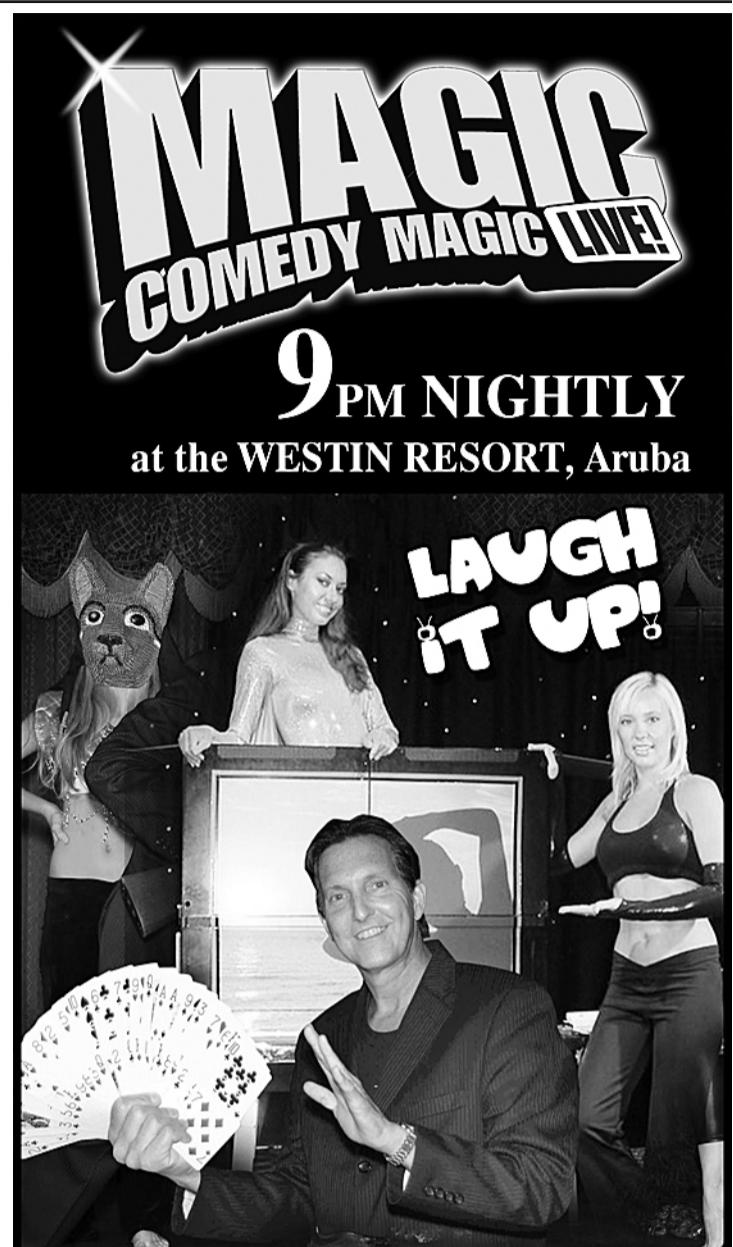
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Pa mas informacion por acudi na [www.setar.aw](http://www.setar.aw) of yama 525-1700.



### IF YOU GO!

**SHOWTIME:** 9PM NIGHTLY

**STARRING:** Adam Steinfeld

**WHAT:** Comedy Magic, Grand Illusion show.

**LOCATION:** Westin Resort & Casino Aruba

**THEATER OPENS:** 8:30PM

**BOX OFFICE OPENS:** 8:00PM

**COST:** \$20 (under 15), \$40 adult / **LOCALS:** Afl. 40

**TICKETS:** at the theater door

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[MagicLive.com](http://MagicLive.com)

[MagicOnTheBeach.com](http://MagicOnTheBeach.com)

## Italian police discover fake university

ROME (AFP) - Italian police on Friday said they discovered a fake university in the north of the country where around 10 students were paying around 7,000 euros (\$9,600) for a worthless, unrecognised degree.

The university in Verona called "Carolus Magnus" (Charlemagne) was founded in 2005 in Rome by several people that belonged to a cultural association, which later transferred its headquarters to Verona, police said in a statement.

The university offered courses in "art and entertain-

ment management" or "economics and business management" and assured it was registered with other public and private universities, none of which were known to Italy's education ministry.

The students who took courses at "Carolus Magnus" ended up with invalid educational documents and none of the exams held at the university were certified by the education ministry.

Four people attached to the fake university were reported to justice officials for fraud, the police statement said.

# Bolt, Blake in stunning Brussels triumphs



BRUSSELS (AFP) - Jamaican sprint kings Usain Bolt and Yohan Blake sprinted to landmark times at the Diamond League on Friday, Bolt running the fastest 100m this year and Blake the second fastest 200m of all time.

Blake sprinted home in 19.26sec, just behind the world record of 19.19sec held by Bolt.

The world 100m champion from Daegu, 21-year-old Blake finished ahead of America's Walter Dix (19.53) and another Jamaican Nickel Ashmeade (19.91).

"I was looking for this and I got it. I expected to run fast but not this fast," said Blake.

"The last 40 metres was crazy, but I'm like a beast when that happens. I just take control of the track."

Bolt managed to overshadow Bolt, whose 100m world title he took in Daegu

last month when his world record-holding compatriot was disqualified for a false start.

Bolt, 25, clocked 9.76sec to win the 100m, bettering the previous season-leading time of 9.78sec set by compatriot Asafa Powell in Lausanne on June 30.

Olympic champion Bolt, who still collected gold in the 200m and 4x100m in Daegu, arrived in Belgium straight from Zagreb where he ran 9.85sec on Tuesday, his best time of the season until Friday.

"I never doubted that I could run this fast," said Bolt. "I was happy with my race although I didn't get to my transition very well."

Bolt insisted that false-starting was a thing of the past.

"I made one mistake -- it won't happen again."

Double Olympic champion Kenenisa Bekele ran the

fastest 10,000m of the season, clocking 26min 43.16sec.

The 29-year-old bettered the previous leading time of 26:46.57 set by Britain's Mo Farah in Eugene in June.

Kenya's Lucas Rotich (26:43.98) and Galen Rupp of the United States (26:48.00) took second and third respectively.

Bekele, who won 5,000m and 10,000m gold at the Beijing Olympics in 2008, has endured a miserable, injury-hit season.

He was a no-show in heats for the 5000m at the world championships in Daegu after limping out of the 10,000m, in which he was also defending champion from Berlin in 2009.

Bekele dropped out of the 10,000m with 10 laps to go, saying he was still suffering with a groin injury that affected his right hip muscle.

## England down India to wrap up series win

CARDIFF (AFP) - England defeated India by six wickets in a rain-affected match here Friday to complete a 3-0 one-day series victory over the reigning world champions.

India looked to have posted a formidable total after piling up 304-6 off their 50 overs, with Virat Kohli lashing a superb century and veteran Rahul Dravid con-

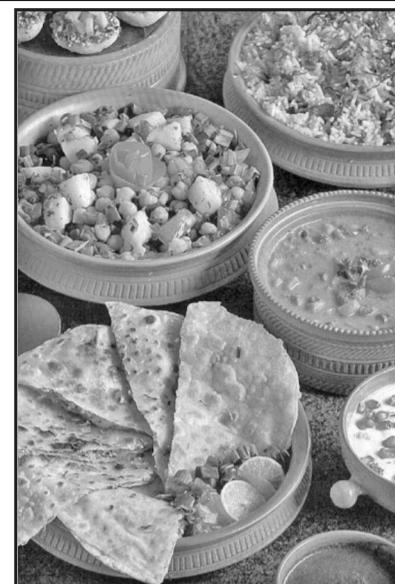
tributing 69 in his farewell one-dayer.

However sporadic rain showers delayed the start of the England run chase at Sophia Gardens, and when play finally resumed England had been set a revised Duckworth-Lewis target of 270 to win in 40 overs.

England captain Alastair Cook and number three Jonathan Trott both contributed half centuries before debutant Jonny Bairstow slashed an unbeaten 41 with Ravi Bopara 36 not out to steer the hosts to victory.

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## 1,000-day countdown to Brazil World Cup kicks-off



Brazil's President Rousseff (L) and football great Pele

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Brazil on Friday launched its countdown to the 2014 World Cup, ticking off the 1,000 days before it hosts the top international football tournament.

Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff kicked off the event in the city of Belo Horizonte by announcing new infrastructure investments and renewing her pledge that her country would be ready, despite facing a formidable list of problems and being behind schedule.

"Investing in infrastructure is a way of saying no to the international crisis affecting countries in the eurozone and the United States," said Rousseff, who was accompanied by retired football great Pele, named as Brazil's World Cup ambassador.

Brazil's O Globo newspaper noted that, within the next 1,000 days, the country has to complete 52 major works, 12 stadiums, change several laws and decide its team's selection.

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## Real Madrid claims world-record revenue in 2010/11



MADRID (AFP) - Spanish football giants Real Madrid claimed Friday world-beating revenue for the sports world in 2010-11 at 480.2 million euros (\$663 million).

"It is the biggest sum of any sporting institution in the

### MLB Standings

#### American League

	East	W	L	Pct	GB
NY YANKEES	90	58	.608	--	
BOSTON	86	62	.581	4.0	
TAMPA	82	65	.554	8.0	
TORONTO	75	74	.503	15.5	
BALTIMORE	60	88	.405	30.0	
<b>Central</b>					
DETROIT	87	62	.584	--	
CHICAGO	73	75	.493	13.5	
CLEVELAND	72	74	.493	13.5	
KANSAS	64	86	.427	23.5	
MINNESOTA	59	89	.399	27.5	
<b>West</b>					
TEXAS	85	64	.570	--	
LA ANGELES	82	67	.550	3.0	
OAKLAND	67	82	.450	18.0	
SEATTLE	62	87	.416	23.0	

#### National League

	East	W	L	Pct	GB
x-PHILADELPHIA	95	51	.651	--	
ATLANTA	86	64	.573	11.0	
NY METS	71	78	.477	25.5	
WASHINGTON	70	77	.476	25.5	
FLORIDA	67	81	.453	29.0	

	Central	W	L	Pct	GB
MILWAUKEE	87	63	.580	--	
ST. LOUIS	81	68	.544	5.5	
CINCINNATI	73	76	.490	13.5	
PITTSBURGH	67	82	.450	19.5	
CHICAGO	65	84	.436	21.5	
HOUSTON	51	98	.342	35.5	

	West	W	L	Pct	GB
ARIZONA	87	63	.580	--	
SAN FRANCISCO	79	70	.530	7.5	
LA DODGERS	73	75	.493	13.0	
COLORADO	70	78	.473	16.0	
SAN DIEGO	63	87	.420	24.0	

x-Clinched Playoff Spot; y-Division Champ; () Magic Number for Division Championship

world," the club run by president Florentino Perez said in a statement.

Real, which is leading the first division early in the new season, had the 8.6 percent jump in sales accompanied by a 31.7 percent surge in net profit to 31.6 million euros in the year to June 30.

The club said it also managed to trim its heavy debt load. Net debt fell 30.6 percent in the year but was still high at 169.7 million euros as of June 30, it said.

Real Madrid rakes in money from the stadium, television rights, marketing, membership fees and sales of players.

Real sharply reduced spending on players this summer when compared to the summer of 2009 when it splashed out more than two million euros on Kaka and Cristiano Ronaldo.

The Madrid club notably recruited Coentrao from Benefica for 30 million euros and made a 10-million-euro bet on the future of 18-year-old Varane from Lens.

But the huge sums that Real Madrid and archrival Barcelona claw in from the sale of television rights have sparked a backlash from other less fortunate clubs in the Spanish league.

Real Madrid and Barcelona receive about 140 million euros (\$197 million) a year each from television rights, while small clubs such as Levante, Malaga or Real Sociedad get just 12 million euros each.

#### Crosby cleared for no-contract workouts

PITTSBURGH (AFP) - Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby, fighting back from a concussion, said Friday he has been cleared to practice without contact and will skate today with his NHL teammates.

The 24-year-old Canadian center said he is not sure when he might be allowed to participate in full-contact drills with the Penguins as they begin their pre-season training camp with the season opener only three weeks away.

Crosby has not played since suffering a concussion on January 5 in a game against Tampa Bay.

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## Eagles star Vick makes emotional return to Atlanta

ATLANTA (AFP) - Michael Vick, imprisoned for nearly two years on dogfighting charges, returns to the city where he became an NFL star on Sunday, leading the Philadelphia Eagles against the Atlanta Falcons.

Vick's return to the Georgia Dome figures to be emotional for Falcon fans and their fallen hero on his path to redemption.

"It's going to be exciting to go back but this is a business trip for us," Vick said. "From an emotional aspect, it's going to be great going back to the Dome but I don't want anything to be a distraction from what we're there to do."

"It's going to be fun. I look forward to it."

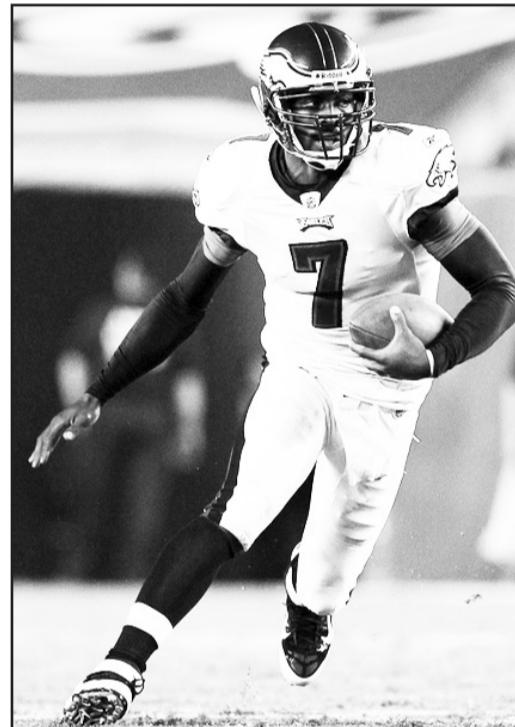
The 31-year-old quarterback, a run-pass threat, spent six seasons with the Falcons before being dropped in 2007 and pleading guilty to federal dogfight conspiracy charges for his role in financing the gambling effort.

Details of how Vick brutally killed dogs drew protests before and after his sentence was served, allowing him to return in 2009 as a reserve with the Eagles, including a game in Atlanta when he threw a touchdown pass.

But last season, Vick moved into a starting role for the first time since 2006. He completed 233 of 372 passes for 3,018 yards and 21 touchdowns with six interceptions and rushed 100 times for 676 yards and nine touchdowns.

After squandering his first chance at NFL stardom, Vick has been signed for product endorsements and inked a six-year deal worth \$100 million for the Eagles last month.

"We just have to focus on



the game. I just want to go out and play the best football that I can play," Vick said.

Vick wonders about the reception he might receive, having drawn huge cheers in his 2009 appearance, but he admits his replacement is the new hero for Falcon fans, saying the Dome "is Matt Ryan's house. I'm just a visitor."

"I still have a lot of love for the fans down there but I'm with the opposition now. I don't expect it to be in my favor."

Ryan understands that Vick is like an old flame coming around even though he is their man now.

"Certainly, Mike was a great player down here and did some fantastic things and is going to have support from people," Ryan said. "But I re-

ally feel like we've had great support the last three years that I've been down here and it has been a lot of fun to play down here."

Atlanta receiver Roddy White, one of the few Falcons remaining from Vick's glory days with the team, still speaks with Vick often.

"He has done a good job for all the misfortune that happened to him," White said. "To bounce back like that, he handled it well. I just hope he continues to handle it well."

Vick's thoughts do not linger on his days in a Falcons uniform much any more.

"I'm older now. I've been through a lot," Vick said. "I've always worked as hard as I can, just like I did in Atlanta. We made progress. We had some good years there. But the situation is different now."

"There's no need to talk about the past, just move forward."

Sunday's other games include Kansas City at Detroit, Oakland at Buffalo, San Diego at New England, Tampa Bay at Minnesota, Chicago at New Orleans, Baltimore at Tennessee, Cleveland at Indianapolis, Jacksonville at the New York Jets, San Francisco hosting Dallas, Seattle at Pittsburgh, Arizona at Washington, Houston at Miami, Green Bay at Carolina and Cincinnati at Denver.

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# Unbeaten Mayweather takes aim at Ortiz's title



Photo depicts at left: Mayweather facing off with Ortiz (R)

LAS VEGAS (AFP) - Undefeated Floyd Mayweather, nagged by legal woes that could send him to prison, ends a 16-month layoff today by fighting Victor Ortiz for the World Boxing Council welterweight title.

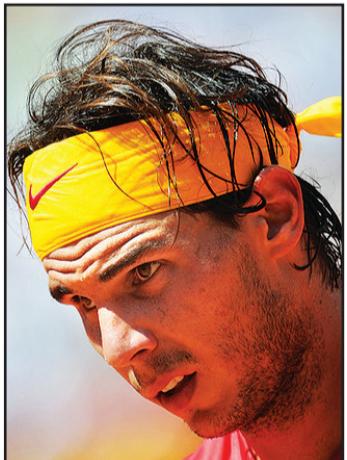
The all-American showdown could set the stage for Mayweather to finally face Filipino star Manny Pacquiao, provided "Pac-Man" defeats Mexico's Juan Manuel Marquez in Novem-

ber, next year in a bout that fight fans have sought for years.

"I believe in my skills. I believe in my talent," Mayweather said. "This fight will not go the distance."

It also could mark Mayweather's farewell, with a possible sentence of 34 years behind bars if convicted on all charges in a domestic violence dispute from last September involving former girlfriend Josie Harris.

## Nadal, Ferrer have French on rack



Nadal

CORDOBA (AFP) - Rafael Nadal cast off fatigue and his US Open final loss to Novak Djokovic to thrash Richard Gasquet 6-3, 6-0, 6-1 in Friday's opening rubber of the Davis Cup semi-final as Spain took a 2-0 lead over France.

David Ferrer then defeated Gilles Simon 6-1, 6-4, 6-1 to leave four-times champions Spain needing just a win in today's doubles at the Cordoba bullring to ensure their place in the final.

It was one way traffic from the start as world number two

Nadal blitzed Gasquet and Ferrer destroyed Simon as the Spaniards brutally underlined their status of favourites on home clay as they look to book a final against either defending champions Serbia or Argentina, who were facing off in Belgrade.

Nadal had admitted to tiredness after his US Open final defeat but said that "if I come, it is above all to defend my country."

He gave Gasquet no chance in 30 degrees Celsius heat, breaking the Frenchman at the first time of asking and never giving his rival the hint of a chance before an enthusiastic 10,000 crowd.

"Even tired Nadal remains an exceptional player," said Gasquet.

"I couldn't find a way past him. It's a defeat that hurts," added the French player after his tenth loss in as many meetings with the Spaniard.

Nadal said: "That worked out well, I managed to play with a cool head and do what I had to do throughout without losing concentration for a minute."

"He's done," Ortiz said. "I don't care what he brings. He was done when he signed to fight Victor Ortiz. America wants to see change. Change is coming soon."

Mayweather, 41-0 with 25 knockouts, has not fought since beating Shane Mosley by unanimous decision in May of last year but is confident he can handle champion Ortiz, who at 24 is 10 years younger than the challenger.

"I've fought them all, never backed down, stayed focused and was always at my best," Mayweather said. "I don't have to brag, I don't have to boast. I'm going to go in there and execute the game plan."

Southpaw Ortiz, 29-2-2 with 22 knockouts, won his

first world title five months ago with a unanimous decision over previously unbeaten Andre Berto.

"I am going to teach you what it's like to have a loss on your record," Ortiz said to Mayweather in the final pre-fight news conference. "I'm going to hold my hands up and I'm going to put you on your ass."

Ortiz dismissed Mayweather's perfect record, saying, "41 of those fighters were not me, 41 of them couldn't move like me."

"Floyd is a good fighter but I've always thought he wasn't great. I'm not impressed and I'm not going to hold any respect like his 41 victims."

The undercard features a showdown for the vacant

World Boxing Council super lightweight crown between Mexicans Erik Morales and unbeaten Pablo Cesar Cano.

Morales, 51-7 with 35 knockouts, has not held a world title since 2004 but hopes to climb back to the top at age 35.

Since unifying the WBC and IBF super featherweight crowns in 2004, Morales has lost six of 10 fights, his most recent bout a majority-decision loss to Argentina's Marcos Maidana last April for the WBA interim light welterweight title.

Cano, 22-0 with one draw and 17 knockouts, receives his first title bout at age 21 as a last-minute replacement for Argentina's Lucas Matthysse, who dropped out last week with a viral infection.